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**FAMILY OPEN HOUSE REVEALS SUCCESS OF RECYCLING  
See what happens to your recyclables after they leave the curb**

Waukesha, WIS – The public is invited to an Open House at the County Materials Recycling Facility (MRF) on Sat., Nov. 12 from 10 a.m.-12 p.m. to celebrate America Recycles Day. This is a day set aside nationally to recognize the importance of recycling to the economy and the environment.

Last year, Waukesha County residents sent nearly 24,000 tons of newspapers, magazines, junk mail, cardboard, aluminum and steel cans, plastic bottles #1 and #2 and glass to the MRF. Over the 15 years that the program has been in operation, a total of 290,000 tons have been processed at the recycling facility and shipped to manufacturers to be made into new products. This is equivalent to 24,500 semi trailers, which if lined up would cover 278 miles, or about the distance from Waukesha to the Twin Cities.

Visitors will see how their recyclables are sorted and baled for shipment to manufacturers. In the Education Room they will see displays of products made from recyclables. Two interactive displays – the Wise Tree of Recycling and the Energy Bike – will inform and educate both children and adults.

“People are always amazed by the amount of materials handled at this facility on a daily basis, and what an impact their behavior has on keeping these materials out of landfills”, said Karen Fiedler, solid waste supervisor for the county. “As part of the America Recycles Day celebration, visitors will have an opportunity to enter a national drawing for a new Hybrid vehicle or a Trek bicycle for the kids,” she added.

Recycling and Solid Waste staff will be on hand to conduct tours and answer questions. “Recycle Raccoon,” the county’s mascot for recycling, will welcome visitors.

The MRF is located at 220 S. Prairie Avenue in Waukesha. For information about the event or recycling, visit [www.waukeshacounty.gov/recycling](http://www.waukeshacounty.gov/recycling) or call 262-896-8300.

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